

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-10 remain in this application. Claims 2 and 7 were previously canceled. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claim 10 is amended above for improved clarity.

Independent claims 1 and 6 are rejected, along with claims 3 and 4, as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,958,439 to Dehn in view of U.S. Patent 5,343,628 to Ham and U.S. Patent 2,419,134 to Hall. Reconsideration is requested.

Initially, it is respectfully submitted that the disclosure provided by the Dehn patent has not been properly interpreted by the Examiner. Set screw 60, referred to as “a threaded part” by the Examiner, does not fit “into a hole in the body part of a motor vehicle” as the Examiner asserts. The set screw 60 instead fits into a hole in rectangular block 54 of a mounting device 52. Also, the rectangular block 54, referred to as “an attachment element” by the Examiner, does not rest on roof panel 20 or any other surface of the vehicle body 10. The block 54, instead, contacts both a base plate 56 and a rod 36 and, in fact, is spaced from a surface of the vehicle body 10 by the base plate and a magnet 58.

The Examiner’s discussion of the Ham disclosure in the last paragraph on page 2 of the Office Action is also noted. While the Ham device does include pointers or probe rods 106 including a tip 110 for contacting various points on a vehicle body, this fact does not render it obvious to “add the tapered end disclosed by Ham opposite the screw thread of the part disclosed by Dehn in order to better contact the holes of the auto body” as the Examiner asserts.

Again, the set screw 60 of the Dehn device does not even fit into a hole in a body part of a motor vehicle.

The Examiner's discussion of the Hall disclosure in the second paragraph on page 3 of the Office Action is additionally noted. The rationale set forth by the Examiner for further modifying the Dehn device, however, is inappropriate. Nothing suggests that any "gripping area" in the Dehn device is in any way inadequate, and nothing in the Hall patent disclosure suggests that the ball-like portion 1 is utilized "to provide a better gripping area" as the Examiner concludes.

It is respectfully submitted that, for reasons discussed above, the rejection based on the Dehn, Ham, and Hall patents set forth in section 2 on pages 2-3 of the Office Action is erroneous and should be withdrawn, and that claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 are patentable in their present forms.

Independent claims 5 and 8-10 are rejected as being unpatentable over the Dehn, Ham, and Hall patents as applied to claims 1, 3, 4, and 6, and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,220,187 to Holmes. This rejection relies on the same interpretation of the Dehn disclosure and the same proposed further modification to the Dehn device discussed above, however, and should also be withdrawn.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

December 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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